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Identical letters dated 28 March 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I write to inform you of a dangerous effort by Palestinian leaders to create conflict by orchestrating a series of mass confrontations, specifically on the security fence between the Gaza Strip and Israel, to occur between 30 March and 15 May 2018. While the Palestinians are attempting to present these demonstrations as acts of "peaceful resistance", Hamas has invested approximately $10 million into this confrontation campaign and will pay Gazans to participate.

The provocative actions of Hamas to ignite violence serve only to distract the world from the terror organization's disastrous hegemony that has resulted in a deteriorating situation in Gaza. For over a decade, Hamas has ruled Gaza with an iron fist, diverting funds that should be spent on essential civilian infrastructure projects to finance its raging terror campaign. Furthermore, Hamas continues to endanger the civilians of Gaza, as it hides behind the same women and children it incites to participate in these violent demonstrations.

Simultaneously, the Palestinian Authority continues to suspend payments for electricity and salaries in Gaza and has threatened additional sanctions. Israel, on the other hand, continues to provide electrical power and water to, and for the entry of goods into, Gaza in coordination with international parties and accommodates Gazans seeking to enter Israel for medical treatment.

In the light of the Palestinians' organized provocation scheduled for the coming weeks, I reiterate the right of Israel to defend its sovereignty and protect its citizens.

Israel condemns the Palestinian leadership's dangerous attempt to inflame tensions and instigate violence and expects all United Nations personnel to refrain from planning, supporting or participating in these activities.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Danny **Danon**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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